

SOC 232: Individuals, Groups, and Society

Spring 2023: January 11th – May 11th

Instructor and Contact Information

Instructor: Rina James

Pronouns: they/them/theirs (Not sure what this means? Just ask, I'm happy to explain.)

Email: rinajames@arizona.edu

Virtual student hours: Tuesdays, 2p-4p over Zoom

Description of Course

This course overviews sociological work in the area social psychology. The subdiscipline of social psychology focuses on the micro-level processes within society and social life. Throughout the semester, we will overview work on the relations between individuals and society, with an emphasis on how individuals develop a sense of who they are and who others are; how individuals interact and how these interactions become patterned; and how institutions function to shape interactions and perceptions of certain individuals and groups.

Course Prerequisites or Co-requisites

None

Course Format and Teaching Methods

This course is fully web-based. All readings, assignments, and class discussions will be completed through the D2L course site. The weekly assignments include discussion board participation and short quizzes administered through D2L. The D2L 'Announcements' page will be used to communicate any important course information throughout the semester. A specific outline of the activities you are expected to complete each week, and the accompanying due dates, is included in the course schedule; due dates for assignments are also listed in the relevant sections on D2L, and under the assignment descriptions. Students are responsible for managing their time and technology to ensure work is completed on time. Please note that all due dates/times reflect the local time in Tucson.

If you have questions about the course, be sure to check the syllabus. Then, if needed, you can email the instructor at rinajames@arizona.edu. You can expect a response within 24 hours during the workweek—I do not respond to student emails on the weekends, so please ensure any urgent emails are sent by 4pm Friday, so they may be addressed prior to that. Otherwise, you may not receive a response before Monday morning.

Course Objectives

By the end of the course students are expected to be able to:

- Describe what areas of research and inquiry are emphasized within social psychology as a discipline.
- Explain how the social psychological perspective differs from other approaches.
- Identify what social process contribute to individual identity formation.
- Explain social psychological principles that frequently govern group interactions.

Expected Learning Outcomes

Knowledge of how to think critically about social issues in contemporary society: Students will learn how to think critically about everyday interactions, and about how group processes may contribute to positive or negative outcomes that shape inequalities in modern society.

Knowledge of social institutions: Students will learn how micro-level processes relate to every aspect of life, and will develop an understanding of how the patterns that emerge from these processes shape institutions such as the family and workplace.

Required Materials

Required Textbook: DeLamater, John; Mayers, D., Collett, J.L. 2015. *Social Psychology*. Westview Press. (8th Edition). The textbook is available at no cost through the University of Arizona Library. You can access it at: <https://arizona->

primo.hosted.exlibrisgroup.com/permalink/f/evot53/01UA_ALMA51806549470003843.

Other materials: Additional materials, including short readings, occasional films, and weekly lectures using VoiceThread, will be made available on the D2L course page.

Absence and Class Participation Policy

Participation in the course is vital to student success. As this an online course, there are no lectures or required meeting times. However, **if you anticipate being unable to meet assignment deadlines due to illness or other personal circumstances, please contact the instructor before the due date.** If you are experiencing unexpected barriers to your success in your courses, the Dean of Students Office is a central support resource for all students and may be helpful. The Dean of Students Office is located in the Robert L. Nugent Building, room 100, or call 520-621-7057.

The UA's policy concerning Class Attendance, Participation, and Administrative Drops is available at: <http://catalog.arizona.edu/policy/class-attendance-participation-and-administrative-drop>

The UA policy regarding absences for any sincerely held religious belief, observance or practice will be accommodated where reasonable, <http://policy.arizona.edu/human-resources/religious-accommodation-policy>.

Absences pre-approved by the UA Dean of Students (or Dean Designee) will be honored. See: <https://deanofstudents.arizona.edu/absences>

Syllabus Assignment

Earn three extra credit points by proving you read the syllabus and emailing me a picture of a cat. It doesn't have to be your cat, but if it is then I'd also like to know their name. If you don't like cats, you can pick a different animal. Or even a plant. I'm not picky.

Makeup Policy for Students Who Register Late

Students who register after the course start date must make up all assignments within **one week** of enrolling in the course.

Assignments and Grading

Syllabus quiz (5%): At the beginning of the course, you will be asked to carefully review the syllabus, and complete a short quiz that confirms you understand important material contained within. **The syllabus quiz is due Thursday, 1/12 by 5pm.**

Weekly quizzes (30%): Each week, you will take a short, five-question quiz that covers the weeks reading or viewing. Quizzes will be administered through the 'Quiz' section on the D2L course site, and are **due Mondays by 5pm.** Your lowest quiz score will be dropped from your final grade.

Weekly discussion questions and answers (30%): Each week beginning in Week 2 of the course, you will be asked to post two discussion questions related to the course readings or films, and to respond to at least two of your peers' posts. Discussion questions should move beyond asking for summaries of the information provided in the course materials; instead, you should ask your peers to clarify points that were unclear, make connections between readings, apply concepts to their own lives, or address possible critiques of the materials. Consider referring to the list of key terms and concepts at the end of the chapters for help identifying which parts of the materials are most important to discuss.

Responses to your peer's questions should be substantive; a good response will be 1-2 paragraphs and will thoroughly engage with the questions posed. **Your discussion questions are due by Thursday at 5pm. Discussion responses are due the following Mondays at 5pm.** Your lowest discussion score will be dropped from your final grade.

Essays (30%): Throughout the semester, you will write two short essays asking you to review and synthesize materials from four of the five units of the course. Essays should be 750-1000 words (this is ~2-3 pages, double-spaced) and include properly formatted citations. A guide on how to ensure proper citations is included under 'Course Content' on D2L. You also have the option to revise one of your first two essays to improve your score, at your discretion. **Essays are due at the end of Weeks 8 and 16.** Prompts will posted under course content.

Final Reflection (5%): To wrap up the course, students will write at least 750 words about the five most important things you learned in this course. Each item should be numbered clearly, and emphasize substantive knowledge (i.e. conceptual or empirical knowledge, not study skills or similar). This assignment is pass/fail, and will be evaluated based on whether what you discuss was part of the course, was accurately described based on course materials, was described in detail (i.e., you should write paragraphs rather than bullet points), and was at least 750 words. **Final Reflection papers should be submitted through D2L by 11:59pm on Thursday, May 11th.**

Final Examination or Project

There is no stand-alone final exam or assignment for this course. For general final exam regulations and information, see <https://www.registrar.arizona.edu/courses/final-examination-regulations-and-information>, and Final Exam Schedule, <http://www.registrar.arizona.edu/schedules/finals.htm>

Late Work Policy

I understand that students increasingly have obligations outside of coursework. **In an effort to build flexibility into the course, each student is allotted two late work passes.** You may use these for a free 48-hour extension on any assignment, entirely at your discretion. You do not need to explain the circumstances, you can simply send an email indicating that you would like to use one of your late work passes and specifying which assignment you are using the extension for.

Given the ongoing pandemic, I also aim to be flexible for students affected by illness during the semester; if you think you may need more accommodations than an extension on a single assignment, please reach out to make arrangements with the instructor before assignment due dates have passed.

Grading Scale and Policies

University policy regarding grades and grading systems is available at <http://catalog.arizona.edu/policy/grades-and-grading-system>

Grade distribution for this course:

A: 90-100
B: 80-89
C: 70-79
D: 60-69
F: <60

Requests for incomplete (I) or withdrawal (W) must be made in accordance with University policies, which are available at <http://catalog.arizona.edu/policy/grades-and-grading-system#incomplete> and <http://catalog.arizona.edu/policy/grades-and-grading-system#Withdrawal> respectively.

Dispute of Grade Policy Students with concerns regarding an assignment grade should contact the instructor within two days of the assignment grade being posted. Students are responsible for regularly reviewing the feedback on their assignments.

Honors Credit

Students wishing to contract this course for Honors Credit should email me to set up an appointment to discuss the terms of the contract. Information on Honors Contracts can be found at <https://www.honors.arizona.edu/honors-contracts>.

Course Schedule

Please look over the following schedule carefully so that you can plan your work accordingly. Also check the course website regularly for announcements. You must keep up with any changes in the schedule, which will be announced on D2L. **Please note that all assignments are due on Mondays at 5pm.**

UNIT ONE: INTRODUCTION TO SOCIAL PSYCHOLOGY
Week 1: 1/11 – 1/15 – Course Intro
<p>Watch video intro and carefully read syllabus.</p> <p>Chapter 1: Introduction to Social Psychology</p> <p>Syllabus quiz due Thursday 1/12 by 5pm Week 1 discussion post due by Thursday 1/12 at 5pm Week 1 quiz and discussion replies due Monday 1/16 by 5pm</p>
Week 2: 1/16 –1/22 – Research Methods in Social Psychology
<p>Chapter 2: Research Methods in Social Psychology</p> <p>Week 2 discussion questions due Thursday 1/19 by 5pm Week 2 quiz and discussion replies due Monday 1/23 by 5pm</p>
UNIT TWO: THE SOCIAL SELF
Week 3: 1/23 – 1/29 – Socialization
<p>Chapter 3: Socialization Through the Life Course</p> <p>Week 3 discussion questions due Thursday 1/26 by 5pm Week 3 quiz and discussion replies due Monday 1/30 by 5pm</p>
Week 4: 1/30 –2/5 – The Self
<p>Chapter 4: Self and Self-Presentation</p> <p>Week 4 discussion questions due Thursday 2/2 by 5pm Week 4 quiz and discussion replies due Monday 2/6 by 5pm</p>
Week 5: 2/6 –2/12 – Self and Identity
<p>Film: Three Identical Strangers—Available online through UA Library at https://arizona-primo.hosted.exlibrisgroup.com/permalink/f/evot53/01UA_ALMA51824419100003843.</p> <p>Week 5 discussion questions due Thursday 2/9 by 5pm Week 5 quiz and discussion replies due Monday 2/13 by 5pm</p>
UNIT THREE: INTERNAL PROCESSES
Week 6: 2/13 – 2/19 – Emotions
<p>Chapter 5: Emotions</p> <p>Week 6 discussion questions due Thursday 2/16 by 5pm Week 6 quiz and discussion replies due Monday 2/20 by 5pm</p>

Week 7: 2/20 – 2/26 – Perception and Cognition
<p>Chapter 6: Social Perception and Cognition</p> <p>Week 7 discussion questions due Thursday 2/23 by 5pm Week 7 quiz and discussion replies due Monday 2/27 by 5pm</p>
Week 8: 2/27 – 3/5 – Attitudes
<p>Chapter 7: Attitudes</p> <p>Week 8 discussion questions due Thursday 3/2 by 5pm Week 8 quiz and discussion replies due Monday 3/6 by 5pm Essay #1 due Monday 3/6 by 5pm</p>
Week 9: 3/6 – 3/12 – SPRING BREAK
<p>No readings or assignments this week. Enjoy the break!</p>
UNIT FOUR: GROUP PROCESSES
Week 10: 3/13—3/19 – Understanding Groups
<p>Chapter 13: Understanding Groups</p> <p>Week 10 discussion questions due Thursday 3/16 by 5pm Week 10 quiz and discussion replies due Monday 3/20 by 5pm</p>
Week 11: 3/20 – 3/26 – Group Processes
<p>Chapter 14: Group Processes</p> <p>Week 11 discussion questions due Thursday 3/23 by 5pm Week 11 quiz and discussion replies due Monday 3/27 by 5pm</p>
Week 12: 3/27 – 4/2 – Group Processes, cont.
<p>Film: 12 Angry Men—available online through UA Library at https://arizona-primo.hosted.exlibrisgroup.com/permalink/f/evot53/01UA_ALMA51791355430003843.</p> <p>Week 12 discussion questions due Thursday 3/30 by 5pm Week 12 quiz and discussion replies due Monday 4/3 by 5pm</p>
UNIT FIVE: SOCIAL RELATIONSHIPS
Week 13: 4/3 – 4/9 – Influence and Persuasion
<p>Chapter 9: Social Influence and Persuasion</p> <p>Week 13 discussion questions due Thursday 4/6 by 5pm Week 13 quiz and discussion replies due Monday 4/10 by 5pm</p>

Week 14: 4/10 – 4/16 – Altruism
Chapter 10: Altruism and Prosocial Behavior Week 14 discussion questions due Thursday 4/13 by 5pm Week 14 quiz and discussion replies due Monday 4/17 by 5pm
Week 15: 4/17 – 4/23 – Relationships
Chapter 12: Interpersonal Attraction and Relationships Week 15 discussion questions due Thursday 4/20 by 5pm Week 15 quiz and discussion replies due Monday 4/24 by 5pm
Week 16: 4/24 – 4/30 – Deviance
Chapter 16: Deviant Behavior and Social Reaction Week 16 discussion questions due Thursday 4/27 by 5pm Week 16 quiz and discussion replies due Monday 5/1 by 5pm Essay #2 due Monday 5/1 by 5pm
Week 17: 5/1 – 5/11 – Course Wrap-up & Finals
Week 17 discussion questions due Thursday 5/4 by 5pm Week 17 quiz and discussion replies due Monday 5/8 by 5pm Final Reflections and any outstanding coursework due Thursday 5/11 by 5pm

Classroom Behavior Policy

To foster a positive learning environment, students and instructors have a shared responsibility. We want a safe, welcoming, and inclusive environment where all of us feel comfortable with each other and where we can challenge ourselves to succeed. To that end, our focus is on the tasks at hand and not on extraneous activities (e.g., texting, chatting, reading a newspaper, making phone calls, web surfing, etc.). Additionally, the online discussions for the course should remain respectful and professional.

Threatening Behavior Policy

The UA Threatening Behavior by Students Policy prohibits threats of physical harm to any member of the University community, including to oneself. See <http://policy.arizona.edu/education-and-student-affairs/threatening-behavior-students>.

Accessibility and Accommodations

At the University of Arizona, we strive to make learning experiences as accessible as possible. If you anticipate or experience barriers based on disability or pregnancy, please contact the Disability Resource Center (520-621-3268, <https://drc.arizona.edu/>) to establish reasonable accommodations.

Code of Academic Integrity

Students are encouraged to share intellectual views and discuss freely the principles and applications of course materials. However, graded work/exercises must be the product of independent effort unless otherwise instructed. Students are expected to adhere to the UA Code of Academic Integrity as described in the UA General Catalog. See: <http://deanofstudents.arizona.edu/academic-integrity/students/academic-integrity>.

The University Libraries have some excellent tips for avoiding plagiarism, available at <http://new.library.arizona.edu/research/citing/plagiarism>.

Selling class notes and/or other course materials to other students or to a third party for resale is not permitted without the instructor's express written consent. Violations to this and other course rules are subject to the Code of Academic Integrity and may result in course sanctions. Additionally, students who use D2L or UA e-mail to sell or buy these copyrighted materials are subject to Code of Conduct Violations for misuse of student e-mail addresses. This conduct may also constitute copyright infringement.

UA Nondiscrimination and Anti-harassment Policy

The University is committed to creating and maintaining an environment free of discrimination; see <http://policy.arizona.edu/human-resources/nondiscrimination-and-anti-harassment-policy>

Our classroom is a place where everyone is encouraged to express well-formed opinions and their reasons for those opinions. We also want to create a tolerant and open environment where such opinions can be expressed without resorting to bullying or discrimination of others.

Additional Resources for Students

UA Academic policies and procedures are available at <http://catalog.arizona.edu/policies>
Student Assistance and Advocacy information is available at <http://deanofstudents.arizona.edu/student-assistance/students/student-assistance>

Confidentiality of Student Records

<http://www.registrar.arizona.edu/personal-information/family-educational-rights-and-privacy-act-1974-ferpa?topic=ferpa>

Financial Support

The Richard H. Tyler Student Emergency Fund can support students experiencing temporary financial hardships. This appears to apply to graduate students and undergraduate students. Apply for funds from:
https://uarizona.co1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_1TA1XvxC1kgrN1b

Food Support

Research shows that a large percentage of undergraduates face housing and/or food insecurity and it is reasonable to believe numbers have worsened during the current crisis. In addition to Pima County resources, the campus has a food pantry to help reduce food insecurity: <https://campuspantry.arizona.edu/>

Academic advising (undergrads)

If you have questions about your academic progress this semester, or your chosen degree program, advisors at the Advising Resource Center can guide you toward university resources to help you succeed.

Life challenges (undergrads)

If you are experiencing unexpected barriers to your success in your courses, the Dean of Students Office is a central support resource for all students. Call 520-621-2057 or email DOS-deanofstudents@email.arizona.edu.

Physical and mental-health challenges

Recent surveys show that the current crisis is taking a toll on many people's mental and/or physical health, with a really large number of people who are college-aged having thought about suicide in the last 30 days. If you are facing physical or mental health challenges this semester, Campus Health offers medical and mental health care. For medical appointments, call (520-621-9202. For After Hours care, call (520) 570-7898. For the Counseling & Psych Services (CAPS) 24/7 hotline, call (520) 621-3334. If you or someone you know is in crisis, the National Suicide Prevention Hotline has English and Spanish speakers ready to talk 24/7 at: 1-800-273-8255

Finally, please notify the professor if your needs are not met with these resources and you are comfortable in doing so. This will enable them to access additional resources if available.

Subject to Change Statement

Information contained in the course syllabus, other than the grade and absence policy, may be subject to change with

advance notice, as deemed appropriate by the instructor.